

REMARKS

Applicants thank the Examiner for considering the references cited in the Information Disclosure Statement filed on October 6, 2003.

Applicants also thank the Examiner for promptly indicating the subject matter of claims 2-27 and 29-54 as allowable.

Allowable Subject Matter


Claims 2-27 and 29-54 are pending. Applicants have cancelled claims 1 and 28 without prejudice or disclaimer; and have incorporated subject matter indicated as allowable into independent claim form, in order to enable the allowable claims to issue as a patent. Applicants reserve the right to file the cancelled claims in a continuation application. Additionally, selected claims have been amended to correct antecedent basis issues or other minor informalities.

It is respectfully submitted that a full and complete response has been made to the Office Action and, as such, the application is in condition for allowance. Notice to that effect is respectfully requested. If the Examiner believes, for any reason, that personal communication will expedite prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at the number provided.

Dated: August 4, 2004

Respectfully submitted,

Customer Number
29315


James G. Gatto
Registration No.: 32,694
MINTZ, LEVIN, COHN, FERRIS, GLOVSKY AND
POPEO P.C.
12010 Sunset Hills Road, Suite 900
Reston, Virginia 20190
703-464-4806